State of Palestine
Ministry of Health
Minister's Office

دولـــة فـلسـطين
وزارة الصحة
مكتب الوزير

Saturday: 18/11/2023

Day 43 of Israeli Occupation aggression on Palestine

Current situation in Palestine from 7th of October to 18th of November 2023

The information in this report as of Friday envening, 17/11/2023.

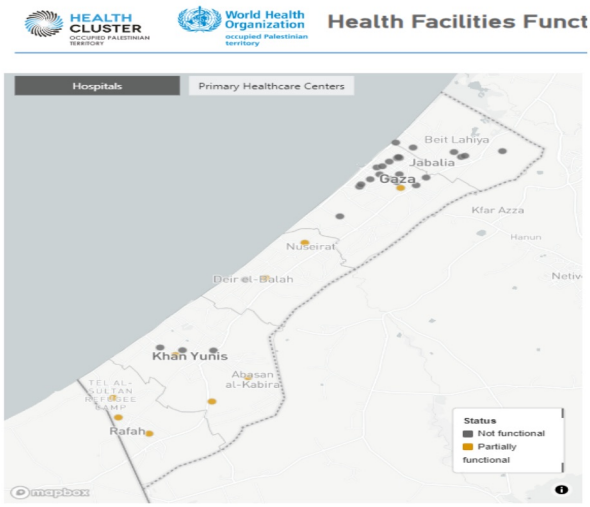
There are significant difficulties in obtaining updated information due to the sever disruption of all communication services in the Gaza Strip by the Israeli Occupation attacks.

Emergency operations center in the ministry of health Ramallah oversees the data collection process through its offices in Gaza. Figures updated every 24 hours. These numbers reflect the verified statistics only but do not necessarily reflect all causalities given the fact that many victims remain missing under the rubble.

Attacks on Hospitals and health system

9 hospitals out of 35 are partially functioning.

26 hospitals are not functioning.



- The Israeli occupation forces evacuated the majority of the wounded, sick, displaced, and health personnel from Al-Shifa Medical Complex after giving them one hour, and they headed south on foot in very difficult conditions.
- The Minister of Health, Dr. Mai Alkaila said stated that there is no hospital in the Gaza Strip that has the capacity to accommodate the wounded and premature babies who were forced by the occupation to evacuate the Shifa Medical Complex. The Minister also called on international institutions to intervene immediately to work on transferring premature and wounded babies from the Shifa Complex to hospitals in the West Bank or hospitals in Egypt.
- The Israeli occupation forces are still present in the various departments of the Al-Shifa Medical Complex and have turned it into a military bases,

spreading terror among the remaining patients, health personnel, the wounded, and the displaced.

- between 11 November and 18 November, 51patients, including 4 premature babies, have died in Shifa Hospital due to lack of electricity. On 16 November, a patient who suffered from kidney failure died because dialysis machines at Shifa had stopped working.
- On November 17, the occupation forces bombed Al-Wafa Hospital for the Elderly in the Al-Zahraa area in the center of Gaza Strip. The bombing led to the death of the hospital director and the injury of other doctors.
- Until today the Israeli occupation forces is forcing a siege on the only operational hospital in northern Gaza, the Al Ahli Baptist Hospital, in Gaza City. Medical teams are unable to move outside and reach those who are injured safely.
- For the seventh consecutive day, the Ministry of Health faced challenges updating the casualty figures due to service and communication collapse in northern hospitals. The reported fatality toll of Palestinians in Gaza as of 17 November at was more than 11,800 of whom about 4,900 are children, 3,155 women and 690 elderly. The number of injured reached approximately 29,500.
  - About 205 martyrs of health personnel.
  - 36 martyrs of the Civil Defense.
  - More than 215 health personnel were wounded.

- Of the 24 hospitals that have the capacity to receive inpatients in the north, only one hospital, Al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza City, is currently operating and receiving patients under great difficulties. Eighteen hospitals have been closed and evacuated since the start, including three over the past three days - Al-Nasr, Rantisi, and Al-Quds.

Important Highlights:

- For the third consecutive day no humanitarian supplies entered Gaza on 17 November, as of 18:00. This is due to UNRWA's inability to receive and distribute additional loads, because of its lack of fuel, compounded by the shutdown of telecommunications.
- On the evening of November 17, the Palestinian Ministry of Communications announced the partial return of communications services (landline, cellular, and

Internet) in various areas within the Gaza Strip, after UNRWA provided a limited amount of fuel in support.

- Forcibly displaced people fleeing from the north are reporting the presence of dead bodies in the streets. As of 15 November, more than 3600 civilians are still missing of them 1750 children, remain missing and presumed to be trapped or dead under the rubble.

- The continues Israeli occupation attacks in the heart of Gaza city have continued to disrupt the movement of rescue teams and ambulances and people to obtain their essential needs, particularly food and water. Households in the western neighborhoods of Gaza city appealed for help after their remaining food and drinking water had been depleted. Reportedly, they were unable to leave their homes because of the presence of Israeli ground troops and fighting. Multiple appeals by stranded households and family members underneath struck buildings and homes went unanswered; the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) has been unable to respond to hundreds of calls to assist and evacuate.

- Humanitarian agencies and first responders have warned that blackouts jeopardize the safety of civilians and the provision of life-saving assistance to people injured or trapped under the rubble.

- The consumption of water from unsafe sources presents significant concerns regarding dehydration and waterborne illnesses. The World Food Programme (WFP) has observed a surge in incidents of dehydration and malnutrition, sounding the alarm about the looming danger of starvation resulting from the direct Israeli occupation forces systematic attacks on the food supply chain and obstructing delivery of aid. A mere 10 percent of the essential food provisions have reached Gaza since the commencement of hostilities.

- More than 60 ambulances were attacked, 55 are damaged and out of service, only seven of the 18 Palestine Red Crescent Society ambulances in the north were still operational, but they were at risk of completely ceasing operations due to running out of fuel.

- 26/35 hospitals in Gaza and 52/72 primary health care clinics (more than two-thirds) have shut down due to damage from the bombardment or lack of fuel.

STATE OF PALESTINE
Dr. Mai Alkaila
Minister of Health

Destroyed Buildings and Displacement

- The final count of destruction is not available as the bombardment is continuing and disruption of all communication channels.
- Latest updates indicates that more than 58% (almost 276,000) of housing units are destroyed, completely destroyed units: more than 54 thousand, partially destroyed housing units: 222 thousand.
- On 17 November, the Israeli occupation forces continued threatening residents in the north to forcibly move to the south through a "corridor", between 7:00 and 16:00. There is no estimation for the forcibly displaced number due to telecommunication blackout.
- The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) estimates that, as of 11 November, there were about 807,000 Palestinians living in areas north of Wadi Gaza (hereafter: the north), constituting about two-thirds of the pre-war population there. The other third of the population, about 400,000 according to PCBS's estimates, were presumably displaced to the south.
- Israeli forces have reportedly been arresting some IDPs fleeing through the "corridor." There are anecdotal and eyewitness reports of some IDPs being beaten and stripped of their clothing.
- The cumulative number of forcibly displaced people since the start of the war in Gaza is estimated at over 1.6 million almost 70 % of the population in Gaza Strip. 15% of forcibly displaced suffer from various disabilities, and most shelter centres are not adequately equipped to meet their needs.
- Around **183,000** forcibly displaced are sheltering in **154** UNRWA facilities in the north. Since 7 October, at least 71 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were killed, and 571 injured, while sheltering in UNRWA facilities that were hit across the Gaza Strip.
- On 16 November, UNRWA reported that infectious diseases in shelters over the past two weeks have increased. Sanitation and hygiene conditions in the makeshift shelters are inhuman and pose an imminent health catastrophe, with an average of one shower unit for every 700 people and a solitary toilet for every 150 people.

STATE OF PALESTINE
Dr. Mai Alkaila
Minister of Health

West Bank including east Jerusalem:

- Escalation in Israeli Occupation forces and settler attacks in the West Bank since October 7th have been documented. Israeli occupation forces have killed 212 Palestinians, among them 51 children, while Israeli settlers in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, have killed eight Palestinians, including one child. Additionally, 2,800 Palestinians were injured by the Israeli forces, with at least 287 children among them. Furthermore, an additional 74 Palestinians have suffered injuries inflicted by settlers.
- The Israeli occupation forces have also besieged several hospitals (Tulkarm Governmental Hospital, Jenin Governmental Hospital, Ibn Sina Specialized Hospital, Al-Amal Hospital in Jenin, and Al-Shifa Maternity Hospital in Jenin), and have obstructed the work of the medical team and ambulances.
- First response -emergency capabilities have been overwhelmed by the increase in injuries due to Israeli occupation forces aggression, with high demand for emergency medical supplies in hospitals.
- The closure of Israeli occupation checkpoints, lack of safety, movement restrictions and attacks on health facilities and personnel make the movement of ambulances difficult, restrict the movement of healthcare workers, and patients' access to primary care and hospitals between West Bank towns and Jerusalem.
- Parts of Area C are still inaccessible to partners running mobile clinics, leaving residents without access to basic healthcare services.

STATE OF PALESTINE
Dr. Mai Alkaila
Minister of Health

Urgent Needs:

- An immediate ceasefire and cessation of the Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip, West Bank and their health institutions.
- We appeal to United Nations, international and human rights institutions to implement **immediately** international humanitarian laws that prohibit attacks on hospitals, health centres, ambulances, health teams and paramedics immediately.
- Urgently allowing the entry of humanitarian and health supplies into the Gaza strip, especially medicine, medical supplies, food, milk and fuel for electrical generators in hospitals.
- Open safe corridor for the entrance of volunteer medical teams.
- Open safe corridor for the wounded to be evacuated for treatment in hospitals in the Arab Republic of Egypt and elsewhere.
- Immediate Stopping of the displacement of citizens.
- Immediate support is needed to establish effective search and rescue operations.

STATE OF PALESTINE
Dr. Mai Alkaila
Minister of Health